

REMARKS

Claims Objections

The Examiner has objected to Claim 30 because of the following informalities: lines 6-7 "the silicide layer" should be --the gate silicide layer--. Claim 30 has been amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 30-31, 33, 36 and 37 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chau et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,710,450) in view of Fulford et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,793,089). Claims 34 and 35 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chau et al. ('450) in view of Fulford et al. ('089) as applied to claims 30, 31, 33 above, and further in view of Subbhanna (U.S. Patent No. 5,338,698). The Applicant respectfully traverses. The cited references do not teach all of the elements claimed by the Applicant. In particular, the independent claims 30 and 36 do not teach the element of "the sidewall spacers having a height of at least 200Å above the third thickness of the gate silicide layer." None of the cited references specify the height that sidewall spacers on either side of a gate rise above a gate silicide layer. Therefore, because the dependent claims 31, 33-35, and 37 incorporate the limitations of the independent claims, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 30-31, 33-35, 36 and 37 are not obvious in light of the cited references.

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If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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